Message Text

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INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 CIAE-00 INR-07 NSAE-00 SCS-03 SCA-01 PM-04 DODE-00 COME-00 /028 W

-----151910Z 049400 /53

R 151420Z FEB 77 FM AMEMBASSY MOSCOW TO SECSTATE WASHDC 4197 INFO AMCONSUL LENINGRAD

LIMITED OFFICIAL USE MOSCOW 2161

E.O. 11652: N/A

TAGS: PFOR, PINS, UR, US, CSCE

SUBJECT: EMBASSY TRAVEL - JANUARY

REFS: A. MOSCOW 1503, B. 76 MOSCOW 17834

1. SUMMARY. EMBASSY TRAVEL CONTINUED IN THE WINTER DOLDRUMS. APOL COUNSELOR SIMONS AND WIFE FINALLY SUCCEEDED IN VISITING YURIEV POLSKIY BY TRAIN (REF B). INTOURIST IS NOW ARRANGING INDIVIDUAL TOURS FOR FOREIGNERS TO ALL AREAS OF THE BALTICS. AEROFLOT HAS INSTITUTED NEW RESERVATION POLICY WHICH THREATENS TO CONSTRICT EMBASSY TRAVEL (REF A). END SUMMARY.

2. EMBASSY TRAVEL STATISTICS FOR JANUARY 1977 ARE AS FOLLOWS:

REQUESTS DESTINATIONS TRAVELERS SELF- REFUSED/ CANCELLED ALTERED

33 40 62 3 1

EXCEPTIONS REQUESTED:

24 HOUR 48 HOUR CLOSED AREA LIMITED OFFICIAL USE

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1 0 0

EXCEPTIONS REFUSED: NONE

3. EMBASSY SUBMITTED TWO TRAVEL NOTES FOR TWO SOVIET EMPLOYEES TO DRIVE TO FOUR DESTINATIONS.

- 4. MFA PROTOCOL (PROFKOFYEV) JAN 19 ALTERED MODE OF TRANSPORT OF KAP HEAD PORTER AND WIFE TO CHERKASSY VIA PEREYASLAVL-KHEMELNITSLIY AND RETURN TO KIEV VIA KANEV FROM AUTOMOBILE TO TRAIN.
- 5. TRAVEL OFFICER VISITED INTOURIST EXCURSION BUREAU JAN 28 TO CHECK ON VALIDITY OF LOCAL RUMORS THAT INTOURIST NOW ARRANGING INDIVIDUAL TOURS FOR FOREIGNERS TO ANY LOCALE IN THE BALTIC STATES. INTOURIST CLERK CONFIRMED THAT THIS WAS THE CASE BUT WITH A LEAD TIME OF AT LEAST FOUR DAYS TO MAKE THE REQUISITE ARRANGEMENTS. HOWEVER, FOREIGNERS WORKING IN THE SOVIET UNION ARE STILL REQUIRED TO COORDINATE ALL TRAVEL THROUGH THEIR SPONSORING ORGANIZATION. MFA PROTOCOL (VACHNADZE) HAS YET TO RESPOND TO EMBASSY QUERIES RE STATUS OF EMBASSY TRAVEL TO CLOSED AREAS OF LITHUANIA, LATVIA AND ESTONIA.
- 6. EMBASSY RECOMMENDS APPROPRIATE WASHINGTON RETALIATION FOR ALTERATION OF PORTER TRAVEL. \mbox{TOON}

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Message Attributes

Automatic Decaptioning: X

Capture Date: 01-Jan-1994 12:00:00 am Channel Indicators: n/a

Current Classification: UNCLASSIFIED Concepts: TRAVEL CONTROLS

Control Number: n/a

Copy: SINGLE Sent Date: 15-Feb-1977 12:00:00 am Decaption Date: 01-Jan-1960 12:00:00 am

Decaption Note: Disposition Action: RELEASED Disposition Approved on Date:
Disposition Case Number: n/a
Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW

Disposition Date: 22 May 2009 Disposition Event:

Disposition History: n/a
Disposition Reason:
Disposition Remarks:
Document Number: 1977MOSCOW02161
Document Source: CORE
Document Unique ID: 00

Document Unique ID: 00 Drafter: n/a

Enclosure: n/a Executive Order: N/A Errors: N/A

Expiration: Film Number: D770053-1177 Format: TEL

From: MOSCOW

Handling Restrictions: n/a

Image Path: ISecure: 1

Legacy Key: link1977/newtext/t19770241/aaaabjxy.tel

Line Count: 82 Litigation Code IDs: Litigation Codes:

Litigation History:
Locator: TEXT ON-LINE, ON MICROFILM
Message ID: cb3ccec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Office: ACTION EUR

Original Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Original Handling Restrictions: n/a Original Previous Classification: n/a Original Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a

Page Count: 2
Previous Channel Indicators: n/a

Previous Classification: LIMITED OFFICIAL USE Previous Handling Restrictions: n/a Reference: 77 MOSCOW 1503, 76 MOSCOW 17834

Retention: 0

Review Action: RELEASED, APPROVED Review Content Flags: Review Date: 11-Mar-2005 12:00:00 am

Review Event:

Review Exemptions: n/a **Review Media Identifier:** Review Release Date: n/a Review Release Event: n/a **Review Transfer Date:** Review Withdrawn Fields: n/a

SAS ID: 3320341 Secure: OPEN Status: NATIVE

Subject: EMBASSY TRAVEL - JANUARY TAGS: PFOR, PINS, UR, US, CSCE

To: STATE Type: TE

vdkvgwkey: odbc://SAS/SAS.dbo.SAS_Docs/cb3ccec6-c288-dd11-92da-001cc4696bcc

Review Markings: Margaret P. Grafeld Declassified/Released US Department of State EO Systematic Review 22 May 2009

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